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Fiftieth year

Letter dated 26 June 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention and to protest strongly over a new provocative action undertaken by the Turkish occupation forces in Cyprus. Starting on 20 June 1995, the Turkish forces have undertaken an extensive construction of fortifications in the demilitarized zone, on the bastion of Rokkas on the Venetian city walls of Nicosia.

The extent of the construction works going on since then, with the use of heavy equipment, leaves no doubt as to the intentions of the Turkish military in erecting the fortifications in blatant violation of the 1989 unmanning agreement.

At the same time, this latest development, which, ironically, came at the very moment when the Security Council was involved in consultations that culminated in the unanimous adoption of resolution 1000 (1995) of 23 June 1995, a resolution which, inter alia, calls upon the military authorities of Turkey and of the Republic of Cyprus to cooperate with the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) for the extension of an unmanning agreement in the buffer zone where the two sides are in close proximity.

Instead of heeding the call of the Security Council, the Turkish military authorities have even refused to allow UNFICYP to inspect the site where construction work is still being carried out. In doing so, the Turkish military are also refusing to abide by the relevant provisions of the 1989 unmanning agreement.

The Government of the Republic of Cyprus considers this latest violation of the 1989 unmanning agreement and of the relevant provisions of Security Council resolution 1000 (1995) as a most provocative act which will inevitably lead to a

further escalation of tensions, for which the Government of the Republic of Cyprus will bear no responsibility.

It should also be stressed that this new provocative act manifests, once again, the lack of political will on behalf of the Turkish side not only to contribute constructively in the search for finding a solution to the Cyprus problem but also towards creating the necessary climate conducive to the establishment of confidence between the two communities.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 51, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alecos SHAMBOS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Cyprus
to the United Nations